

A m e n d m e n t s t o t h e S p e c i f i c a t i o n

On Page 1, please **REPLACE** the second and third full paragraphs in the “CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED U.S. APPLICATIONS” section at lines 9-16 with the following two paragraphs as follows:

This application is related to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ~~09/164,473~~ 09/165,089, filed October 1, 1998, titled “Method and Apparatus For Documenting Cap Removal Data”, now U.S. Patent No. 6,751,730 B1, the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

This application also is related to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/609,017, filed June 30, 2000 (~~Walker Digital Docket No. WD00-055~~ titled “Methods and Apparatus for Increasing, Monitoring and/or Rewarding a Party’s Compliance with a Schedule for Taking Medicines”) the content of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Please **REPLACE** the paragraph on Page 2, Line 30 and ending on Page 3, Line 11 with the following paragraph:

Other conventional techniques/systems for combating patient non-compliance include, for example, medicine containers that communicate with a central device to provide reminders and warnings to patients regarding when medicines should or should not be taken, devices that dispense one or more medicines at a time and then issue reminders/warnings to patients regarding the dispensed medicines, etc. Other conventional devices may record patient compliance information (e.g., when a medicine was taken) and may communicate (or allow a patient to communicate) such information to a healthcare facility or insurance company (e.g., to allow the healthcare facility or insurance company to monitor patient compliance). For example, previously incorporated U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ~~09/164,473~~ 09/165,089, filed October 1, 1998, which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,751,730 B1, discloses a system that documents and

authenticates cap removal data (e.g., the number of times that a patient removes the cap of a medicine container), so that the cap removal data may be reliably provided to a third party (e.g., an insurance company).

Please **REPLACE** the paragraph on Page 22, Lines 13-21 with the following paragraph:

Note that the rewards identified in records 502-510 are merely exemplary and that any other rewards may be similarly employed. For example, other rewards may include a lower insurance premium, a lower insurance deductible, a lower insurance co-pay, a reimbursement of the cost of a medicine, a prize (e.g., a vacation, a membership at a local gym, etc.), points (e.g., an alternate currency that is redeemable for a prize if enough points are collected), discounts on products (e.g., coupons for products), any of the rewards described in previously incorporated U.S. Patent Application Serial No. ~~09/464,473~~ 09/165,089, filed October 1, 1998, which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,751,730 B1, or any other reward.

Please **REPLACE** the paragraph on Page 38, Line 21 and ending on Page 39, Line 24 with the following paragraph:

In addition to determining compliance data based on proximity information, the compliance monitoring device 102 may determine compliance data based on other measures of the patient 104's compliance to the medicine schedule. For example, the compliance monitoring device 102 may monitor (1) the amount of each medicine that has been taken by the patient 104; (2) the timing of the taking of each medicine; (3) various physical indications of the patient 104 (e.g., the patient 104's blood pressure, the patient 104's heart rate, the patient 104's blood glucose level, etc.) that may indicate whether or not the patient 104 has taken one or more medicines; and/or (4) any attribute that indicates the patient 104 has complied with a medicine schedule. For example, a pressure sensor may be employed within the cap of each medicine container 102a, 110, 112 and 114 that identifies each time the cap is opened or closed (as described, for example, in previously incorporated U.S. Patent Application Serial No.

~~09/164,473~~ 09/165,089, filed October 1, 1998, which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,751,730 B1), and opened/closed information may be transmitted to the compliance monitoring device 102 or to one or more of the medicine containers. A weight sensor may be employed within the base of each medicine container 102a, 110, 112 and 114 that identifies the weight of the medicine stored within the medicine container, and weight information may be transmitted to the compliance monitoring device 102 or to one or more of the medicine containers. Other suitable weight sensors are described in U.S. Patent No. 5,014,798 to Glynn which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety. A radio-frequency identifier (RFID) may be embedded within each medicine (e.g., in each pill), and each medicine container and/or the compliance monitoring device 102 may be provided with an RF scanner that senses the RFIDs so as to identify when medicine is removed from a medicine container (e.g., so as to count the number of pills taken by the patient 104). After obtaining information regarding the amount of medicine taken by the patient 104 (by employing one or more of the above-described techniques), the compliance monitoring device 102 may determine a level of compliance to the medicine schedule. The compliance monitoring device 102 may determine a first compliance level based on proximity information (e.g., proximity information about the medicine containers 102a, 110, 112 and 114) and may determine a second compliance level based on medicine consumption information (e.g., the amount of medicine taken by the patient 104). Alternatively, or additionally, the compliance monitoring device 102 may determine a single, “composite” compliance level based on both proximity information and medicine consumption information.